

LISTING OF CLAIMS

We claim:

1. (Currently amended) A system for providing legal information, the system comprising at least one computer, at least one database associated with the at least one computer for storing
5 information related to a plurality of legal topics and to at least one type of legal information of a plurality of types of legal information, the information being stored in relation to the plurality of legal topics, and programming stored on a computer readable medium or media that causes the at least one computer to:

access within the at least one database information that has been stored in relation
10 ~~related~~ to at least one legal topic, in response to a request received from a user-accessible terminal coupled with the system; and

cause the accessed information to be displayed on a display device associated with the terminal from which the request was received, ~~the information tabulated by type of legal information according to a classification comprising at least two~~
15 ~~types~~.

2. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein ~~the at least two~~ plurality of types of legal information comprises at least two of: administrative action, legislative action, rulemaking, reported judicial decisions, and news.

3. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein tabulating the displayed
20 ~~information is tabulated according to a classification by~~ comprises displaying information related to each type in a separate display window.

4. (Currently amended) The system of claim 3, wherein the ~~classification~~ plurality of types of legal information comprises at least two of ~~the types~~: administrative action, legislative action, rulemaking, reported judicial decisions, court filings, news, and secondary materials.

25 5. (Currently amended) The system of claim 3, wherein the ~~classification~~ plurality of types of legal information comprises at least ~~the types~~: administrative action, legislative action, rulemaking, reported judicial decisions, court filings, news, and secondary materials.

6. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the ~~legal topic is designated by a~~
~~user of the terminal from a plurality of legal topics comprising~~ comprises at least two of:

admiralty and maritime;

alternative dispute resolution;

5 antitrust;

trade regulation;

banking;

finance;

bankruptcy;

10 business;

commercial;

consumer rights;

corporate;

business organizations;

15 civil rights;

collectibles and personal property;

communications;

media;

constitutional;

20 construction;

contracts;

criminal;

education;

employment;

labor;
entertainment;
gaming;
sports;
5 environmental;
estates, trusts, and wills;
family;
government;
elections and politics;
10 government benefits;
government contracts;
government administration;
state government;
local government;
15 health;
human rights;
immigration;
insurance;
intellectual property;
20 copyrights;
patents;
trademarks;
international;
international trade;

internet;
litigation;
litigation administration;
appellate procedure;
5 civil procedure;
damages and remedies;
evidence;
mergers and acquisitions;
military;
10 natural resources;
energy;
native populations;
professions and occupations;
professional licensing;
15 professional responsibility;
products liability;
real property;
science and technology;
securities;
20 US federal taxation;
state taxation;
international taxation;
torts;
transportation; and

workers' rights.

7. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the ~~system comprises~~ programming stored on ~~a~~ the computer readable medium or media ~~that~~ causes the at least one computer to further automatically:

5 access within the at least one database new information responsive to the request;
and

cause the accessed new information to be displayed on a display associated with the terminal from which the request was received, the information tabulated by type of legal information according to a classification.

10 8. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the ~~system comprises~~ programming stored on ~~a~~ the computer readable medium or media ~~that~~ causes the at least one computer to automatically and periodically:

access the at least one database to determine whether new information responsive to the request is stored within the at least one database; and

15 if new information responsive to the request is stored within the at least one database, cause the new information to be displayed on a display associated with the terminal from which the request was received, ~~the information~~ tabulated by type of legal information according to a classification.

20 9. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the ~~system comprises~~ programming stored on ~~a~~ the computer readable medium or media ~~that~~ causes the at least one computer to automatically and continually:

access the at least one database to determine whether new information responsive to the request is stored within the at least one database; and

25 if new information responsive to the request is stored within the at least one database, cause the new information to be displayed on a display associated with the terminal from which the request was received, ~~the information~~ tabulated by type of legal information according to a classification.

10. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1, comprising a plurality of databases for storing the information in relation ~~related to~~ the at least one legal topic[[s]], wherein the information is stored in separate databases according to the respective at least one legal topic[[s]] in relation to which the information is stored ~~relates~~.
- 5 11. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1, comprising a plurality of databases for storing the information in relation ~~related to~~ the at least one legal topic[[s]], wherein the information is stored in separate databases by type of legal information ~~according to the~~ classification.
12. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1, comprising a plurality of databases for
10 storing the information in relation ~~related to~~ the at least one legal topic[[s]], wherein the information is provided by a plurality of sources, and ~~wherein~~ the information is stored in separate databases according to the sources that provided the information.
13. (Cancelled)
14. (Cancelled)
- 15 15. (Cancelled)
16. (Currently amended) A system for providing legal information, the system comprising at least one computer, at least one database associated with the at least one computer for storing items of legal information and at least one document including written information associated with each item, the legal information being stored in relation ~~related to~~ at least one of a plurality
20 of legal topics and related to at least one type of legal information of a plurality of types of legal information, and programming stored on a computer readable medium or media that causes the at least one computer to:
- display, on a display device coupled to a user-accessible terminal coupled with the system, items of ~~a plurality of different types of~~ legal information, ~~the~~
25 ~~information tabulated according to a classification comprising at least two types~~ tabulated by type;

access within at least one database, in response to a request received from the user-accessible terminal, content information associated with a document related to ~~identified by~~ an item of the displayed information; and

cause the accessed content information to be displayed on the display device
5 associated with the terminal from which the request for content information was received.

17. (Currently amended) The system of claim 16, wherein the ~~items identifying the~~ documents comprise selectable links, and the request is generated by a user selecting a selectable link using an input device coupled with the user-accessible terminal.

10 18. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the displayed content information comprises a complete version of a document.

19. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the displayed content information comprises an abbreviated version of a document.

15 20. (Original) The system of claim 19, wherein the abbreviated version of a document comprises a summary of a document.

21. (Original) The system of claim 19, wherein the abbreviated version of a document comprises at least one redacted portion of a document.

22. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the displayed content information comprises at least a partial image of a document.

20 23. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the accessed content information is displayed in a different display window than the displayed information items.

24. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the accessed content information is displayed on a different monitor screen than the displayed information items.

25. (Cancelled)

25 26. (Cancelled)

27. (Currently amended) A system for providing legal information, the system comprising at least one computer, a plurality of databases associated with the at least one computer for storing information in relation-related to a plurality of legal topics and related to at least one type of legal information of a plurality of types of legal information, and programming stored on a

5 computer readable medium or media, wherein:

at least one of the databases is accessible in response to requests received from terminals having a general authorization for access to the system, and at least-a ~~second~~ one of the databases is accessible in response to requests received from terminals having a specific authorization but not accessible in response to requests received from terminals having only the general authorization; and

10 the programming causes the at least one computer to:

access, in response to a request received from a user-accessible terminal coupled with the system, information stored in relation-related to at least one legal topic of the plurality of legal topics in at least one database accessible by terminals having the general authorization and in at least-the ~~second~~ one database accessible by terminals having the specific authorization; and

15 cause the accessed information to be displayed on a display device associated with the terminal from which the request was received, ~~the information tabulated by type according to a classification comprising at least two types.~~

20 28. (Currently amended) The system of claim 27, wherein each ~~the second~~ database accessible in response to requests received from terminals having the specific authorization is associated with the user-accessible terminal from which the request is received.

25 29. (Currently amended) The system of claim 27, wherein the programming stored on a computer readable medium or media that causes the system to access information responsive to the request in the at least one database accessible by terminals having a general system authorization and in the at least one database accessible by terminals having a specific

authorization is stored on a computer readable medium or media associated with the terminal from which the request is received.

30. (Currently amended) A method of processing legal information, the method comprising:

assigning to each of a plurality of documents₁ received from at least one
information source₂, and comprising information relating to a plurality of legal
topics, and stored in relation to the plurality of topics, at least one identifier
associated with (a) at least one of the legal topics in relation to which the
document is stored relates and (b) at least one of a plurality of types of legal
classes of information stored within the at least one legal topic, ~~according to a~~
~~type of information included within the document~~;

formatting the received documents according to a protocol;

storing the formatted documents in at least one database;

using identifiers associated with the stored documents to identify documents
within the at least one database responsive to a request received from a user-
accessible terminal for information related to at least one of the plurality of legal
topics;

causing information associated with the identified documents to be displayed on a
display associated with the user-accessible terminal from which the request was
received, ~~the information tabulated by type according to the topics and classes~~
~~assigned to the documents with which the information is associated~~.

31. (Original) The method of claim 30, wherein documents are received from a plurality of sources.

32. (Original) The method of claim 30, wherein documents are stored in a plurality of databases.

33. (Currently amended) The method of claim 32, wherein the documents are stored in the plurality of databases according to at least one of: the topics in relation to which ~~assigned to the~~

respective documents are stored, the types-classes assigned to the documents, and the sources of the documents.

34. (Original) The method of claim 30, comprising:

checking formatted documents for compliance with a document receiving
5 protocol; and

generating a notice of defects automatically upon determination that a checked document does not comply with the protocol.

35. (Original) The method of claim 34, comprising automatically resubmitting the non-complying document for reprocessing.

10 36. (Currently amended) A method of processing legal information, the method comprising:

assigning to each of a plurality of documents, received from at least one
information source, ~~and comprising information relating to a plurality of legal~~
topics, and stored in relation to the plurality of legal topics, at least one identifier
associated with (a) at least one of the legal topics in relation to which the
15 document is stored relates and (b) at least one of a plurality of types-classes of
legal information stored within the at least one legal topic, ~~according to a type of~~
~~information included within the document;~~

formatting the received documents according to a protocol;

storing the formatted documents in a plurality of databases, at least one of the
20 databases accessible in response to requests received from a terminal having a
general authorization and at least one ~~a second~~ of the databases accessible in
response to requests received from terminals having a specific authorization but
not accessible in response to requests received from terminals having only the
general authorization;

25 receiving from a terminal having the specific authorization a request for
information related to at least one of the plurality of legal topics;

using identifiers associated with the stored documents to identify, in response to a request received from a terminal having the specific authorization, information in at the least one database accessible by the general authorization and ~~the at least one second~~ database accessible by the specific authorization;

5 causing information associated with the identified documents to be displayed on a display associated with the user-accessible terminal from which the request was received, ~~the information tabulated by type according to the topics and classes assigned to the documents with which the information is associated.~~

37. (Cancelled)

10 38. (Cancelled)

39. (Cancelled)

40. (Cancelled)

41. (Cancelled)

42. (Currently amended) Computer program product, stored on a computer readable medium
15 or media and useable for causing a computer system to:

access from memory information stored in relation-related to at least one legal topic and related to at least one type of legal information of a plurality of types of legal information, in response to a request received from a user-accessible terminal coupled with the system; and

20 cause the accessed information to be displayed on a display device associated with the terminal from which the request was received, ~~the information tabulated by type according to a classification comprising at least two types.~~

43. (Cancelled)

44. (Currently amended) Computer program product, stored on a computer readable medium
25 or media and useable for causing a computer system to:

display on a display device coupled to a computer device items of a plurality of different types of legal information, ~~the information tabulated by type according to a classification comprising at least two types;~~

access within a computer memory, in response to a request received from the computer device, content information associated with a document related to ~~identified by~~ an item of the displayed information; and

cause the accessed content information to be displayed on the display device.

45. (Cancelled)

46. (Currently amended) Computer program product, stored on a computer readable medium or media and useable for causing a computer system to:

access, in response to a request, information in at least one database that is accessible using a general authorization and in at least ~~one~~ one-a-second database that is accessible using a specific authorization but not accessible using only a general authorization;

receive a request for information related to at least one legal topic and at least one type of legal information of a plurality of types of legal information; and

display the accessed information on a display device coupled to the computer system, ~~the information tabulated by type according to a classification comprising at least two types.~~

47. (Currently amended) A system for providing legal information, the system comprising at least one computer, at least one database associated with the at least one computer for storing information related to a plurality of legal topics and at least one type of legal information of a plurality of types of legal information, and programming stored on a computer readable medium or media that causes the at least one computer to:

identify, in accordance with a request received from a user-accessible terminal, at least two topics of legal information ~~and at least one type of information within each of the at least two legal topics; and~~

identify within the at least one database information related to the identified topics and types of information; and

cause the identified information to be output to a device in accordance with a designation received from the terminal from which the request was received, the information comprising identifiers for tabulation by type, upon output by a device in accordance with a the designation received from the terminal from which the request was received, in accordance with a classification comprising at least two of the at least two topics and at least two types.

48. (Currently amended) The system of claim 47, wherein the system comprises programming stored on a computer readable medium or media that causes the at least one computer to further automatically:

identify within the at least one database new information related to the identified topics and types of information; and

cause the new identified information to be output to a device in accordance with a designation received from the terminal from which the request was received, the information comprising identifiers for tabulation by type, upon output by a device in accordance with a designation received from the terminal from which the request was received, in accordance with a classification comprising at least two of the at least two topics and at least two types.

49. (Currently amended) A system for providing legal information, the system comprising at least one computer, at least one database associated with the at least one computer for storing information related to a plurality of legal topics and to at least one type of legal information of a plurality of types of legal information, the information being stored in relation to the plurality of legal topics, and programming stored on a computer readable medium or media that causes the at least one computer to:

identify within the at least one database information stored in relation related to at least one legal topic, in response to a first request received from a user-accessible terminal coupled with the system;

identify within the at least one database information stored in relation ~~related~~ to at least one of the same or other legal topics, in response to a second request received from the user-accessible terminal; and

cause the information identified in response to both the first and second requests to be output to a device in accordance with a designation received from the terminal from which the request was received, the information comprising identifiers for tabulation by type, upon output by a device in accordance with the a designation received from the terminal from which the request was received, ~~in accordance with a classification of at least one of topic and type.~~

50. (Currently amended) A system for providing legal information, the system comprising at least one computer, at least one database associated with the at least one computer for storing information related to a plurality of legal topics and at least one type of legal information of a plurality of types of legal information, the information being stored in relation to the plurality of legal topics, and programming stored on a computer readable medium or media that causes the at least one computer to:

access within the at least one database information stored in relation ~~related~~ to at least two of a plurality of legal topics and a plurality of types of legal information within the plurality of topics, in response to a request received from a user-accessible terminal coupled with the system; and

cause the accessed information to be output to a device in accordance with a designation received from the terminal from which the request was received, the information comprising identifiers for tabulation by type, in accordance with a designation received from the terminal from which the request was received, ~~in accordance with a classification comprising the at least two of the plurality of topics and the plurality of types.~~

51. (Original) The system of claim 50, wherein the device is a memory controlled by a processor associated with the at least one database.

52. (Original) The system of claim 50, wherein the device is a memory designated by the terminal from which the request was received.
53. (Original) The system of claim 50, wherein the device is a memory associated with an electronic mail address.
- 5 54. (Original) The system of claim 50, wherein the device is at least one of a display, a printer, and a non-volatile memory.
55. (Original) The system of claim 50, wherein the device is an output device associated with at least one input device for interactive control of the output of the information to a display memory.